

SOME RARE AUSTRALIAN FISHES

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(Contribution from The Australian Museum, Sydney)

Since it may be a long time before my "Fishes of Australia" appears, this opportunity is taken to publish a few figures of some rare and interesting species which had been prepared for the larger work. The five shown here belong to the families (1) Bothidae, (2) Gobiidae, (3) Teuthidae, (4) Aluteridae, and (5) Holocentridae respectively.

Figure 1. Flounder, *Arnoglossus aspilos practeritus*, subsp. nov. From the true *A. aspilos* (Bleeker, 1851), to which this comes closest in Norman's Monograph of Flatfishes (1934, pp. 174 and 187), this new subspecies is distinguished by having eye $4\frac{1}{2}$ in head, lower eye more in advance of upper, scales cycloid on ocular side, height of dorsal fin about one-quarter of body depth, and coloration spotted. The holotype (Austr. Mus. regd. no. IA.4142), shown here, is full-grown at $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches and was dredged off Western Australia between Cape Jaubert and Wallal; this subspecies has also been taken off Darwin, Northern Territory.

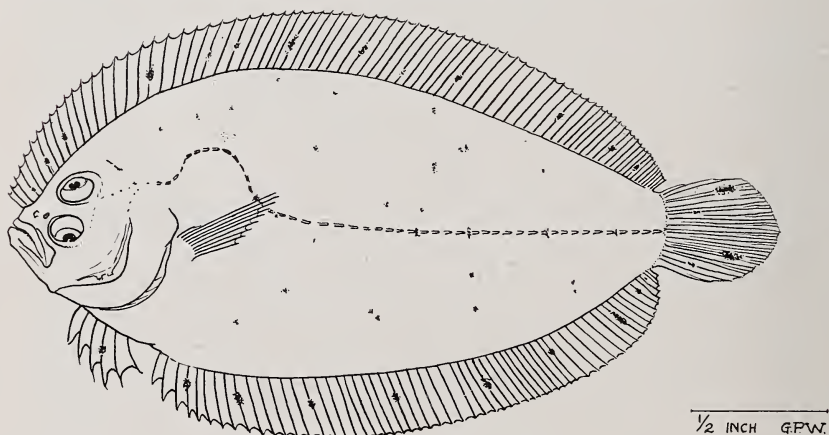


Figure 1. *Arnoglossus*.

Figure 2. The Exquisite Goby, *Favonigobius exquisitus*, sp. nov. The type of this beautiful little fish (Austr. Mus. no. IB.1413), $2\frac{3}{8}$ inches overall, came from Toukley, and a smaller one was caught at Narrabeen, showing that we still have much to learn about the smaller fishes of New South Wales. It differs from the described species in fin and scale counts and in its ornate colouring, as follows. The ground colour is straw-yellowish. A dark brown smudge from eye to mouth. No bands on cheeks. Upper half of head and body with pale greyish-brown spots; four or five pairs of larger blotches along median line of each side. Eye opalescent. Dorsal fins white to cream with blackish ocelli. Anal fin dusky; other fins plain or with blotches as figured. D. vi/i, 8; A. i, 8; P. 15; C. 12. Sc. 26. Tr. 8. Predorsal sc. 9.

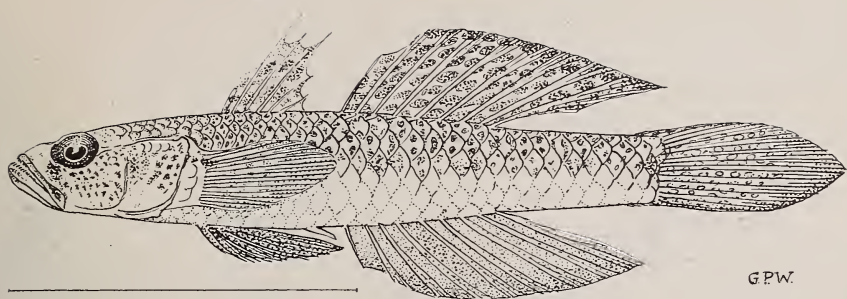


Figure 2. *Favonigobius*.

Figure 3. Surgeon Fish, *Burobullia maculata* (Ogilby, 1887). This yellow-spotted fish, with the three characteristic bucklers on each side of the tail, is known from a very few specimens, up to 17 inches in length, from New South Wales and Lord Howe Island. The figure is drawn from Ogilby's Port Jackson holotype, with the bucklers and a tooth shown separately. A counterpart in the Galapagos Islands, *B. laticlavia* (Val.), is stated by William Beebe to be abundant there; it has recently been generically named *Triacanthuroides* by Fowler (1944), but his name appears to be synonymous with my *Burobullia* (Austr. Zool., vi, 1931, p. 321).



Figure 3. *Burobullia*.

Figure 4. Leatherjacket, *Tantalisor pauciradiatus* Whitley, 1947.

This Western Australian genus and species was only recently named (Austr. Zool., xi, 1947, p. 146) and is here illustrated for the first time from the unique holotype. Lower left: dermal denticles.

Figure 5. Squirrel Fish, *Holotrachys major*, sp. nov. A red, rough-scaled fish from 106 fathoms off New South Wales. D. xii, 13; A. iv, 11; L. Lat. 28 to hypural; tr. $4/1/7\frac{1}{2}$. Length 11 inches. Weight $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds. Differs from most species in having larger and fewer scales and almost vertical preopercular margin. From *H. oligolepis* Whitley (Austr. Zool., x, 1941, p. 28, pl. i, fig. 19) it differs in being less rough, has snout less than eye, nasalia diverging, lower jaw more prominent and head more rounded. Holotype (no. IB.2166) in Australian Museum.

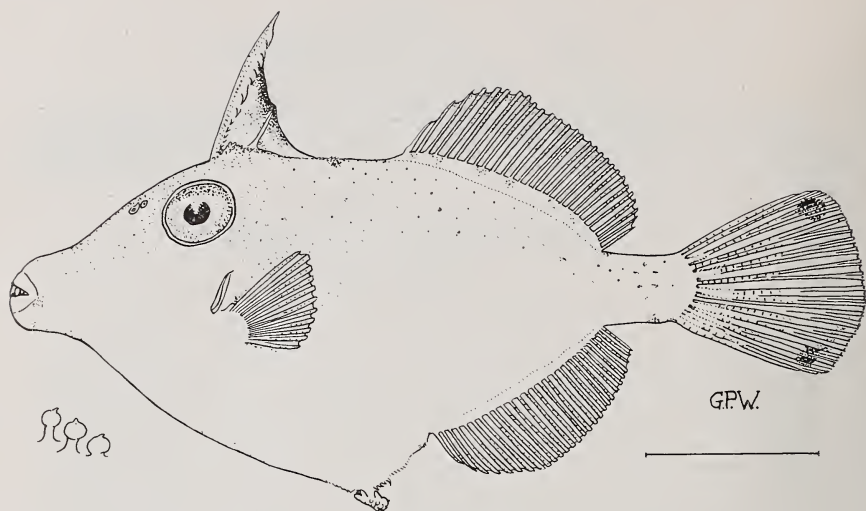


Figure 4. *Tantalisor*.

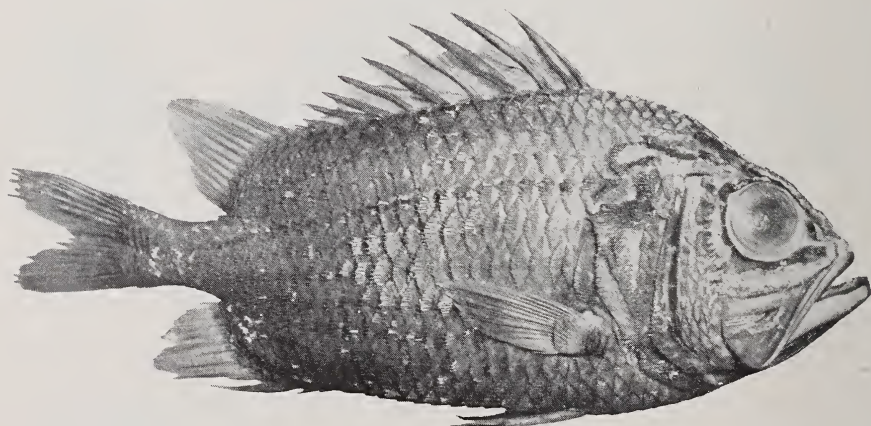


Figure 5. *Holotrachys*.